



Common Core & Related Education Issue Comparison - Florida District 28 Senate Primary



Name/Party	Sponsored Anti-Common Core Bills	Co-Sponsored Anti-Common Core Bills	Sponsored Pro-Common Core Bills	Co-Sponsored Pro-Common Core Bills	Opposes Common Core in Campaign Lit or Forums	Anti-Common Core Endorsement or Rating	Pro-Common Core Endorsement or Rating
Rep. Matt Hudson – R FSCCC Grade – B+	0	0	0	0	Yes on FCA questionnaire & forum (55:45) Nothing on website	Republican Liberty Caucus	No
Rep. Kathleen Passidomo – R FSCCC Grade - D	0	0	1	0	Refused to answer in questionnaire & forum (55:45) Opposes federal overreach & excessive testing on website.	No	Florida Chamber Outgoing Senator Garrett Richter
Ms. MaryKathryn Johnson (Write-in) Not graded by FSCCC due to lack of info	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No website available	No	No
Ms. Mazzie Raymond (Write-in) Not graded by FSCCC due to lack of info	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No website available	No	No

Other Important Information Considered in FSCCC Grade –

Rep. Hudson, though more involved in other issues like healthcare, answered yes to the FCA survey question asking “Will you champion the repeal of Common Core (AKA Next Generation Sunshine State) Standards and replace them with School District choice of best state standards pre-2009 for ELA and Math the first year you are elected?” He is endorsed by anti-Common Core FSCCC partner organization, the Republican Liberty Caucus and has no pro-Common Core endorsements.



Rep. Passidomo was the chief author of the dangerous data mining bill in 2013 that was the first major bill opposed by the anti-Common Core forces in Florida. This bill would have aligned the state longitudinal (womb-to-tomb) student database in Florida to federal mandates. Thankfully it was stopped after mobilized parents protested. Her opposition to “federal overreach” and “excessive testing” while admirable, are the same ideas that were used to by the establishment to push deceptive “lipstick on a pig” bills or actions that merely switched one federal testing contractor for another or just removed the term “Common Core” from statute without actually fixing the real problems. That record, along with refusing to answer any Common Core related questions on surveys or in the FCA forum linked above, and her endorsement by the Florida Chamber of Commerce, one of the leading forces behind pushing Common Core, high stakes testing, data mining, and competency based education in this state, resulted in the near failing grade.



The two write-in candidates have no information available to review and both live out of the district, making them all but irrelevant in this race.

Grading Scale

A - Sponsored or co-sponsored bills against the Common Core system (see “Anti-Common Core System Bills” below) and has not been involved in promoting or expanding the system, and or obtained strong anti-Common Core endorsements, and or has publicly worked and spoken out against the Common Core system, not just in campaigns.

B – Has taken a strong stand against the system publicly either during session or in campaign, and or has publicly promised to sponsor anti-Common Core legislation, or has received strong anti-Common Core endorsements, and not made false statements about their legislative record or sponsored any bad Common Core bills.

C – Has made some effort in sponsoring and or co-sponsoring good anti-Common Core bills or made anti-Common Core statements in forums or campaign literature but still may have co-sponsored a bad bill or received pro-Common Core endorsements.

D - No effort or even statements on the Common Core system or much in education, and or has received pro-Common Core endorsements, and or has sponsored or co-sponsored bad pro-Common core system legislation.

F – Actively promoted the Common Core system via bill sponsor or co-sponsorship, has blocked good legislation from a position of leadership, or has been blatantly deceptive in campaign material or speeches about their Common Core record.

Anti-Common Core System Bills Supported by FSCCC – All not even allowed a committee hearing by leadership

[HB 25](#) – by Mayfield (CO-SPONSORS) Albritton; Broxson; Caldwell; Combee; Eagle; Fitzenhagen; Hutson; Pilon; Rodrigues, R.; Santiago; Tobia; Van Zant/**[SB 1316](#)** Evers (CO-SPONSORS) Hays; Benacquisto - **Common Core Pause, Statewide Hearings, and State Sovereignty (2014)**

[HB 743](#) by Mayfield (CO-SPONSORS) Ahern; Combee; Pilon; Rehwinkel Vasilinda; Sullivan; Van Zant/**[SB 1406](#)** by Bullard - **State Sovereignty over Standards and Assessments (2015)**

[HB 877](#) by Mayfield (CO-SPONSORS) Ahern; Caldwell; Combee; Drake; Eagle; Pilon; Rehwinkel Vasilinda; Sullivan; Van Zant/**[SB 1450](#)** by Bullard - **District Choice of Assessment & Return to Paper & Pencil Tests (2015)**

[HB 1121](#) by Tobia (CO-SPONSORS) Beshears; Caldwell; Combee; Drake; Eagle; Pilon; Rehwinkel Vasilinda; Rodrigues, R.; Van Zant/**[SB 1496](#)** by Evers and Bullard – **Common Core Standard & Test Restructuring (2015)**

[HJR 767](#) by Mayfield (CO-SPONSORS) Burgess; Campbell; Dudley; Eagle; Murphy; Pafford; Pilon; Rehwinkel Vasilinda; Rodríguez, J./**[SJR 942](#)** by Garcia (CO-SPONSORS) Latvala; Bullard - **Joint Resolution to Return Commissioner of Education to an Elected Position (2016)**

[HM 983](#) by Mayfield (CO-SPONSORS) Plasencia/**[SM 1384](#)** by Hays – **Memorial Limiting Federal Powers in Education (2016)**

[HB 1135](#) by Mayfield and Plasencia/**[SB 1124](#)** by Montford – **Allowing for “Incomplete” School Grades and Delayed Consequences after 2014-15 New Assessments (2016)**

[HB 899](#) by Pilon (CO-SPONSORS) Adkins; Ahern; Antone; Beshears; Caldwell; Costello; Eagle; Fitzenhagen; Gaetz; Grant; Mayfield; McBurney; Pigman; Renner; Rodrigues, R.; Santiago; Stone; Sullivan; Tobia/**[SB 1018](#)** by Hays (CO-SPONSORS) Hutson; Benacquisto; Bean; Bradley – **Authentic Empowerment of districts on curriculum (2016)**

Pro-Common Core System or Deceptive Bills Opposed by FSCCC – All passed into law by pro-Common Core leadership & Governor Scott except for the 2013 data bill (SB 878/HB 7027) which was [stopped due to parent action](#):

[CS/CS/SB 1076](#) by Appropriations ; Education ; Legg ; (CO-INTRODUCERS) Stargel ; Brandes ; Benacquisto ; Bean; Sobel/ [CS/CS/HB 7009](#) by Education Committee ; Appropriations Committee ; Choice and Innovation Subcommittee; Moraitis ; (CO-INTRODUCERS) Adkins – **Common Core Implementation Bill (2013)**

[HB 7027](#) by Education Committee and Education Appropriations Subcommittee and Choice & Innovation Subcommittee and Passidomo/[SB 878](#) by Galvano – **[Data Mining/Data Warehouse/State Longitudinal Database System bill that attempted to align Florida to the federal longitudinal data system \(2013\)](#)**

[SB 1642](#) by Appropriations and Education Committee/HB 7117 by Education Appropriations Subcommittee and Education Committee and Adkins – **Merely Removed the Common Core Term from Assessments (2014)**

[HB 7031](#) by K-12 Subcommittee, Adkins/[SB 1226](#) by Rules and Education Committees and Montford – **[Deceptive removal of controversial Common Core name from statute without substantively changing standards \(2014\)](#)**

From our analysis in 2014 - “Rep. Janet Adkins' Memorial to George Orwell (HB 7031) - [As analogized by James Call](#), this bill removed all references to Common Core from statute in an effort to deceive the people into believing that Florida has its own standards. The effort is similar to what Big Brother did to Winston Smith in the dystopian novel *1984*. No one in Florida is fooled. [AP reporter Gary Fineout](#) accurately said, ‘Fueled by parents angry over contentious new national education standards called Common Core, the Republican-controlled Florida Legislature is pushing through a series of sweeping changes. But shhh - don't tell anyone this - Common Core isn't really going away in Florida, just the name.’”

[HB 1365](#) Education Appropriations Subcommittee and Choice & Innovation Subcommittee and Rodrigues, R. and Sprowls (CO-SPONSORS) Artiles; Diaz, M.; Perry; Slosberg; Smith/[SB 1714](#) by Appropriations and Education Pre-K - 12 and Brandes (CO-SPONSORS) Sachs – **[Competency Based Education Pilot Program \(2016\)](#)**

Bills with Small, Positive, but Mostly Cosmetic Changes (“Lipstick on a Pig”) – These two bills, although well-intended by their authors were required by leadership to show effort on issues of great concern to the public, but not to significantly change the problems they were written to address. [Our analysis from 2014](#) is below each one.

[CS/CS/SB 188](#) - by Judiciary ; Education ; Hukill ; (CO-INTRODUCERS) Negron ; Bradley ; Simpson ; Flores ; Brandes ; Stargel ; Montford/ [CS/CS HB 195](#) - Education Committee ; Choice and Innovation Subcommittee ; Raburn ; (CO-INTRODUCERS) Caldwell ; Diaz, M. ; Eagle ; Eisnaugle ; Harrell ; Metz ; Perry - **Student Data Privacy (2014)**

“The Big Brother is STILL Watching Your Children Pretend Data Protection Bill (HB 195/SB 188) Many thanks and kudos go to Senator Hukill and Rep. Raburn for attempting to put forth a bill prohibiting the collection of political and biometric data. Unfortunately, the powers that be that are beholden to the [corporate overlords](#) in Big Data made sure that the language was purely symbolic. By deferring to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, the following language in the bill still allows the access to individual data without consent by the federal government and corporations (See lines 26-32 of the [enrolled bill](#)):

RIGHTS OF STUDENTS AND PARENTS.

The rights of students and their parents with respect to education records created, maintained, or used by public educational institutions and agencies shall be protected in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. s. 1232g, the implementing regulations issued pursuant thereto, and this section.

As we have been pointing out for a year since the battle on [SB 878](#) and in our [national response](#) to the Chief State Schools Officers letter on the data issues, the US Department of Education severely weakened the privacy protections of FERPA via regulations in a stealth end around of Congress, so this bill's reliance on that federal law render the very good language in this state measure completely moot. In addition, despite multiple pleas, there is absolutely no protection against the [psychological profiling](#) that everyone from the [US Department of Education](#), to testing corporations like [AIR](#) and Pearson, to the corporations (Microsoft, Target) and foundations (Gates and Jeb Bush's Foundation for Excellence in Education) that are [partners](#) and [funders](#) of the Data Quality Campaign are salivating to receive.”

[CS/SB 864](#) - Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Hays ; (CO-INTRODUCERS) Benacquisto ; Negron/
[CS/CS/HB 921](#) - Education Appropriations Subcommittee ; K-12 Subcommittee ; Gaetz ; (CO-INTRODUCERS)
Adkins ; Albritton ; Caldwell ; Raburn ; Van Zant **Instructional Materials for K-12 Public Education (2014)**

“**The CAIR/Pearson Pseudo-Local Control Bill (SB 864/HB 921)** Senator Allen Hays' great efforts to provide a modicum of local control were completely gutted by leadership that demanded that the textbooks still align to the state (Common Core) standards. [CAIR also inserted itself into the fight](#), upset that parents were unwilling to accept Islamic biased textbooks like [Pearson's World History text](#). The Libyan Investment Authority is one of the [five largest shareholders in Pearson](#). In addition, publishing giants like Pearson (heavy contributors to Jeb Bush's foundations) didn't want to have to hawk their Common Core wares to all 67 school districts. In the end, districts have the option to choose their curriculum, but it will be mainly the state that decides, and parents have the option to complain about bad texts. This bill was used by the legislative leadership to say that Common Core still allows local flexibility, but all along did nothing substantive to answer or solve the many problems of usurpation of local control by Common Core standards and tests. Syndicated columnist [George Will](#) takes apart this logic during a panel discussion on the Fox News Channel program with Brett Baier.”

Common Core Questions Voters Should Ask of Candidates –

As support for Common Core decimated the presidential campaigns of numerous Republican candidates and it becomes more obvious that the whole [system](#) is a [failure](#), political candidates are trying to deceive voters while trying to please their big business establishment donors. Here are four questions that you can ask to see if their opposition is real or just a battlefield conversion when the heat is turned up:

- 1) Do you support Common Core (many are likely to say "No")
- 2) Do you believe that Common Core is out of the state of Florida as [Governor Scott](#) and [Jeb Bush](#) have proclaimed?
- 3) If you think Common Core is still in Florida, what will you do to see it removed?
- 4) If you oppose Common Core, what did you do during the last year or term to get rid of it? (for incumbents, some of whom supported anti-Common Core bills in the legislature after they knew they would not be heard).